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Gang Member Charged With Murder After Woman's Body Found in Whittier

A documented gang member pleaded not guilty yesterday to fatally shooting a woman in Artesia and leaving her body in Whittier, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On April 25, Anthony Robert Moreno (dob 9/25/77) of Hacienda Heights was charged with one count each of murder and possession of a firearm by a felon in case VA141778.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the killing was committed for the benefit of, at the direction of, and in association with a criminal street gang with the specific intent to promote, further and assist in criminal conduct by gang members.

Additionally, the charging document alleges that Moreno personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, a rifle, which caused great bodily injury and death on the victim.

The felony complaint also alleges that Moreno was previously convicted of unlawful driving or taking of a vehicle in 1999, as well as possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of ammunition and convicted person having a concealed firearm on person in 2015.

Deputy District Attorney Islam Ramadan of the Hardcore Gang Division, who is assigned to the case, said on Nov. 24, 2015, Moreno allegedly armed himself with a rifle and fatally shot victim Dawn McEveety, 20, at an Artesia home.

Following the shooting, Moreno reportedly put the victim's body in a cooler, the prosecutor said. The cooler was then transported to Whittier and left inside a stolen vehicle, according to the prosecutor.

The defendant is scheduled to return to court on July 13 for a preliminary hearing setting in Department 50 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

If convicted as charged, Moreno faces a maximum possible sentence of life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.